rural areas improved telegraph facilities providing STD to Distt. Headquarters and provision of National Digital Network. Specific targets are fixed yearwise. Improvement of the service is a continuous process.

(c) The implementation of the Technology Mission in the field is carried out by the field staff and in the Headquarters a Mission Director oversets the progress of the implementation of the Technology Missions.

(d) Significant achievements have been made since the launching of the Mission as indicated in the Statement. (*See* below).

(e) Yes. Sir.

(f) The present structure is adequate to implement the objectives of the Technology Missions.

Statement

Status of important activities of technology Mission on Communications

Sl.No.	Item	Status during March, 86	March, 91
1	Effective call success rate of local calls (%)	90	96·85
2	Effective call success rate of STD calls (%)	20	85·54
3	Telephone fault rate per 100 stations per month	35	17·36
4	Telex fault rate per 100 stations per month	62	18·18
5	Effective percentage of manual trunk calls	73	80·50
6	Percentage Delivery of Telegrams within 12 day light hours between large stations	29	87·44
7	Public telephones (all types inclusive) in urban areas	19868	81854
8	Rural telephone exchanges	8797	10939 (March, 90)
9	Long Distance Public Telephones	24025	29545
10	Subscriber trunk dialling facility to District Head-quarters	192	417
11	Direct Exchange lines working	31,65,224	50,77,099
12	Telex Exchange lines working	30,992	46,674
13	Computerised Directory inquiry systems at major stations	2	22
14	Digital Trunk Automatic exchanges		29

Scheme of time bound promotion in the name of "Lateral Advancemeit" in the Telecom Department

1355. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme of Time Bound Promotion has been started in the name of "Lateral advancement in Telecom Department to promote the I.T.Os in T.E.S. group 'B' on completion of 12 years service if so, (i) the date from which the new scheme has been implemented; (ii) the number of backlog vacancies reserved for SCs and STs circle-wise in TES GROP 'B' as on the date o implementation of new scheme; and (iii) whether these backlog vacancies will b filled by respective category officials; an

(b) whether reservation/relaxation has been provided for SC|ST employees promotions under "Lateral Advancement" as suggested by Hon'ble Supreme Court in a Judgement date the 29th August, 1988. (i) if not reasons therefor; and (ii) if so, in what manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) A Scheme of Lateral Advancement has been introduced in cadre of JTOs working in Department of Telecom. The JTOs under this scheme are placed in the scale of 2000—3500 on completion of 12 years service in the cadre of JTOs only to relieve the senior members of the carde of stagnation. This placement is on nonfunctional basis which implies that the officials on placement in higher scale continue to perform the same duties which they were hitherto performing. The placement in higher scale does not, therefore, amount to promotion.

(i) The scheme had been implemented with effect from 1.1.1990.

(ii) and (iii) The scheme does not replace the normal scheme of promotion from JTO to Group B. Hence clearance of the backlog of vacancies under this scheme does not arise. The reservation for S/C and S/T will apply as usual at the stage of promotiin to TES Group B.

(b) The Supreme Court judgement referred to does not apply to this case. This judgement is in respect of promotion to higher cadre whereas in this case there is no promotion involved.

Pollution Inspectors in Delhi Administration

1356. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some posts of pollution Inspectors, had been created in Transport Department of Delhi Administration and about 50 Inspectors having Engineering qualifications were recruited/appointed in 1987;

(b) whether the Department has framed Rules within one year of 1st recruitment in compliance of Government of India's notificaton No. A-12011|1|88 dated 26th April, 1988; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when the rules are likely to be framed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The Delhi Administration have created 50 posts of Pollution Level Test Inspectors in the year 1987. A total of 46 Inspectors with Engineering qualification have been recruited so far.

(b) The posts were filled on a regular basis and necessary recruitment rules have already been framed by the Delhi Administration.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

Findings of a Committee of Press Council of India

1357. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whehter Government are aware that according to the findings of a Committee of the Press Council of India, the reports of atrocities and human rights violation by security forces in Kupwara, in Jammu and Kashmir which appeared in foreign press, are entirely baseless;

(b) whether Government have taken up the matter with concerned foreign Governments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The factual position has adready been communicated to the Ministry of External Affairs to advise our